

Message Text

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70

ACTION AF-06

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FM AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2909

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CG, MILI

SUBJ: MOBUTU SPEAKS TO GREEN BERETS

IN 20 MINUTE IMPROMPTU TALK ON JUNE 2, MOBUTU TOLD ZAIRIAN COMMANDOS AT CAMP KOTAKOLI (EQUATEUR) THAT, THOUGH THERE ARE "FOREIGNERS WHO HAVE THEIR EYES SET ON THIS COUNTRY", ZAIRE WILL PULL THROUGH PROVIDING HER CHILDREN ALL STAND TOGETHER IN MPR. DESPITE INFLATION, RECESSION, AND UNFAVORABLE TERMS OF TRADE, ZAIRE'S HARD-PRESSED GUIDE WILL CONTINUE TO LEAD THE COUNTRY TOWARDS ECONOMIC INDEPENDENCE. NOR WILL THE MILITARY BE NEGLECTED. NOW 60,000 STRONG, THE ARMED FORCES WILL CONTINUE TO RECEIVE NECESSARY EQUIPMENT, HOWEVER COSTLY. TWO NEW DIVISIONS WILL BE CREATED, THE FIRST BY NOVEMBER 17 (ARMY DAY). ALSO BY NOVEMBER, ZAIRE WILL HAVE MIRAGE AIRCRAFT. "ZAIRE IS NOT A COUNTRY WE CAN STARVE IN; ZAIRE IS NOT A COUNTRY IN WHICH WE CAN NEGLECT THE ARMY", SAID THE PRESIDENT.
HINTON

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